Numb. 45

THE REHEARSAL Of Obſervator, &c.

1. *Concerning Sr.* H. Aſh——t.
2. *Of the Letter from* Ipſwich.
3. *Of the* Weather-Cock *at* Oxford.
4. *The* Obſervator's *ſtory from* North-Hampton Confuted.
5. *Down with the* Church, *at* Cheſter.
6. The Peaceable *Election* at *Exeter.*

From Saturday June the 2d, to Saturday June the 9th. 1705.

(1.) *Country-m.* THE Following *Paper* I receiv'd from a Friend, on the Behalf of Sir *H. Aſh——t* with a Deſire it might be Inſerted in the *Rehearſal.* The *Paper* is as follows,

Whereas in my Paper on 19th Inſtant, I inſerted an Advertiſement, That it was not Sir W. Aſh——t but Sir H. Aſh——t that ſent a Meſſage to Mr. Vaudre, *That it was paſt 12 a Clock with the Church of* England, *&c. I am ſince by Credible Perſons Informed that it was a Miſtake, and that Sir H. Aſh——t never ſaw Mr.* Vaudre *in his Life, nor never wrote nor Receiv'd any Letter from him; Nor never had any Communication with him whatſoever. So as to its Relating to Sir H. Aſh——t, it needs further Confirmation.*

Thus that *Paper* word for word. And for the *further Confirmation*, I have ſpoke to my Friend, to Write to his Correſpondent in the Country, to know whether he will ſtand to the Account he has already ſent, and to make diligent Inquiry if there is any *Miſtake* in the Matter. If this comes in time, it ſhall be Inſerted in this. If not, as ſoon as I get it. Which I think is doing *Juſtice*, upon the Square, to Both ſides.

(2.) *Obſ.* Come now perform what thou Promis'd'ſt in thy laſt, to ſay ſome more to my *Letter* from *Ipſwich.*

Country-m. I have put the Proof upon you, to Name the *Nine Baronets* &c. that Accompany'd your 2 *Candidates* into the *Town.* And for the *Poll* of the *Clergy*, I have Appeal'd to the *Poll-Books.*

Obſ. But my *Letter*, ſays, that Mr. *L—y was not at the Election.*

Country-m. And my *Letter* did not ſay he was. You will ſtill *Miſtake* the *Matter.* That you may ſeem to *Confute* ſome Body!

Obſ. But what ſay'ſt thou to my *Noble Defence* of Sir *Dudly Cullum* and Sir *Samuel Barnerdiſton*, againſt thy *Impudent LYING* and *Slandering* them?

Country-m. Name any *Lye* or *Slander* I have ſaid of them. Elſe *Thou* art the *Impudent LYER* and *Slanderer.* I have Given no *Character* at all of them, nor ſaid a word of them, but that they were *Candidates* at that *Election*, and had the *Votes* of the *Whiggs* and *Diſſenters.* If thou Reckon'ſt *That* a *Scandal*! I have not yet Learn'd of *Thee*, tho' I have Converſt ſo long with *Thee*, to caſt *Perſonal Reflections*, which concern not the Cauſe in hand; and throw *Billings Gate* at *Gentelmen*, to *Beſpatter*, and *Dirty* all I come near. To call a *Great Lady* a *Witch* and *Proſerpina.* To *Redicule* a *Great General*, with *Sine Clade* and *Riding* in *Triumph* over his Q——n. And then as ſervily *Flatter* him, when he was a *Victor*, and Accuſe others (tho' falſly) for giveing *Bad Words* to him. As thou did'ſt in thine of laſt *Apirl* 14. *Vol.* 4. *N.* 4. of the *Suffolk Gentelmen.* Which was an Errant *Lye.* And thou art *Provok'd* to *Prove* it. How did'ſt thou Throw moſt *Villanouſly* and *Falſly* at Sir *George Rook*, and plaid'ſt Sir *Cloudſly Shovel* againſt him. Now tho' I *Vindicated* Sir *George*, even to *Demonſtration*, and to ſtop all *Reply* (but not thy *Foul Mouth*) yet thy Example cou'd not Tempt me to ſay the leaſt *Reflecting* word upon Sir *Cloudſly*; but rather to *Vindicate* him too from the *Scandal* of being *Commended* by *Thee*, and ſuch *Injurious* uſe made of his *Name*, to *Blacken* his *Friend* and *Admiral* Sir *George Rook.*

Thy way and mine *Bayes*, are very Different. I have been Taught that *Scandal* is a great *Sin.* Nay even *Un-Charitable Truths*; where the end of *Telling* is to *Expoſe*, and not to *Amend.* And I believe thou can'ſt not Charge me with *Reflecting* upon any Man, otherwiſe than to Diſcover his *Principle.* No *Perſonal Vices* or *Immoralities* that concern not the Matter in *Diſpute*, but meerly to throw *Dirt* upon the *Perſon.* This is *Wicked*; and thy daily *Practice.* Nay even to Invent *Lyes*; and when *Diſ-Prov'd*, to *Repeat* them over again and again, inſtead of *Retracting*, or making *Reparation.* This is the very *Spirit* of the *Devil*, the *Accuſer* of the *Brethren.*

(3.) *Obſ.* Come, leave off thy *Preaching*, and Anſwer to the *Charge* againſt thee in the *Review* of the 31th *May* laſt, *Vol.* 2. *N.* 38. Concerning the *Weather-Cock* at *Oxford.*

Country-m. I'll not Anſwer *Thee.* I'll Anſwew

ſwer him. He has not ſuch *Foul Language* as Thou haſt. And has more *Senſe*. And I will give all Encouragement to get out of *Dung-Hills* and *Sinks*, and Fight it upon Fair Ground.

Therefore I ſay to the *Review*, that without Examining, I will take that *Story* as he tells it, *viz.* That it was the *Work-man* who *Ignorantly* put that *Motto* of *Semper Eadem* under the *Weather-Cock* on *Merton-College*. And it was *Innocently* as well as *Ignorantly* done of the *Work-Man*. For as the *Review* tells, it was Uſual at *Merton-College* (as well as other Places) to have the *Kings-Arms* upon the *Fanes* of the *Buildings*. There was on one *Fane* the *Arms* of King *Charles*, with the Uſual *Motto*. On Another the *Arms* of King *Will.* with *Je Maintiendray*, which he us'd inſtead of *Dieu & mon Droit*. And a New *Fane* being to be ſet up, in Room of one was Broke, it was thought Proper to have the *Queens Arms* upon it. And why not her *Motto*, as well as the Reſt? Wou'd it have been any *Reflection* upon Queen *Elizabeth*, who firſt us'd that *Motto*, to have *Semper Eadem* put under her *Arms*, tho' upon a *Weather-Cock*? However, to take away all Occaſion (And we ſee now there was Reaſon) that *Motto* was taken away; And the *Fane* ſet up without it.

Now the *Review* Quoted in the *Rehearſal*, N. 43. Charges the Gentlemen of *Oxford* with *Putting up* the *Semper Eadem* &c. When it was not *put up*. And by the Story, as he now tells it, he muſt know it to be ſo.

But ſuppoſe it had been *Set up*, which as I have ſaid, might have been done very *Innocently*; what Reaſon had the *Review* to call this an *EMBLEMATIC Device*; and, as ſuch a *Reflection* upon the *College*, as being a *Reflection* upon her *Majeſty*? I leave it to every Body, whether the *Maker* of ſuch an *Application*, is not the *Author* of the *Scandal*?

And then may I not ask what Reaſon the *Review* had to give ſo very hard a *Character* of the *Rehearſal*, as to call him *Equally Obſtinate* (even with the *Obſervator*) *in Advancing poſitive Falſhood*? When he *Advanc'd* nothing at all. He only took a *Quotation* out of the *Review*. And added a *Letter* from *Oxford* which deny'd the *Fact*. And left the *Review* to ſearch into that, the beſt Manner he cou'd. The *Review* and not the *Rehearſal* was the *Broacher* of the *Story*. But I'll Return no *Hard* words.

(4.) But now we are upon *Stories*, I deſire thee to give an Account of what thou tell'ſt from *Northampton* in thine of laſt *May*, *9th. Vol.* 4. N 11. where thou ſpeak'ſt of a *Coffee-Houſe* (meaning Mrs. *Laforce's*) frequented, as thou ſay'ſt, by *Jacobites* and *Tackers*, but *more Eſpecially the BLACK-ROBE*; who left a *Cold Treat* was Provided for them on the 23th of *April* laſt, becauſe the news came of the *French Fleet* being Beat. Now I am to tell Thee, that this is an Errant *Lye*, which I have in a Letter from an Unqueſtionable Hand at *North-Hampton*, Dated laſt *May*, *24th.* Which ſays, *That there was but One Perſon in Mrs. LAFORCES COFFFE-HOUSE that Night and he a WHIGG Several CLERGY and GENTLEMEN her Friends, being at the ROSE and CROWN that Night to Drink the QUEEN's Health, being the Day of her CORONATION by an Appointment made the 6th of FEBRUART laſt being the Day of her BIRTH. Sir WILLIAM WHEELER, an Honeſt Gentelmen, came into LAFORCES Coffee-House on Tueſday laſt, and ſaid, that Sir William CRAVEN told him (I ſuppoſe on the Authority of the OBSERVATOR) of ſeveral Gentlemen Leaving their Treat, at LAFORCES, on the News of the FRENCH being Beat, as before. The OBSERVATOR ſays, the Woman marry'd a FRENCH-MAN (Inſinuating, by her lately Going ſometimes to CHURCH) a PAPIST; tho' 'tis well known her Husband was a HUGONOT. The Obſervator wou'd Inſinuate as if only very mean People came to her Houſe; tho' the preſent KNIGHTS, moſt of the GENTLEMEN, and I believe three Parts of the CLERGY in this COUNTY was at her Houſe this ELECTION; And I believe at no other COFFEE-HOUSE, unleſs it were to Enquire for ſome body they wanted. I beliieve ſhe took more money than all the other three COFFEE-HOUSES.*

Thus ſays the *Letter*. And tho' the *Story* ſeems of no Great Conſequence in it ſelf, yet theſe are the *Inferences* thou wou'dſt Draw from it: *1ſt.* To Repreſent the *Clergy* and *Gentry* as *Diſaffected* to the *Queen* and *Government*; And in the Intereſt of *France*. *2dly.* To ſhew the *Humour* of the *People* ſo *Averſe* to the *Church* and the *Tackers*, that the *Coffee-Houſe* which they *Frequented*, was *Deſerted* by all *others*. And *3dly*, That thoſe in the Intereſt of the *Church* were ſo *Few*, as not to be able to Support one *Coffee-Houſe*. And we find this Malicious *Story* was *Believ'd*, at leaſt *Reported*, by others, upon the *Credit* of the *Obſervator*. For which Reaſon, I have taken this *Pains* to *Detect* it. But the *Election* in *North-Hampton* which follow'd, wherein *true Church men* were *Choſen*, is a full *Confutation* of All that this *Story* was *Contriv'd* to *Suggeſt*. And ſhews, That the *Malice* and *Induſtry* of a certain *Party* is *Indefatigable*!

(5.) But their *Heart* Boyl'd over upon the *County Election* at *Cheſter*! where upon their Carrying the *Election* (by what means, I leave to the *Committee* of *Elections*) they cou'd not *Contain* their *Joy*, nor *Conceal* their *Hopes*, but *Cry'd out*, *Down with the CHURCH! No CHURCH! No CHURCH!* And to *Begin* the *Work*, they went and *Inſulted* ſeveral *Churches* in the *City*, Breaking the *Windows*, &c. This I have ſeen in ſeveral *Letters*, from ſeveral *Hands*. And may venture to ſay, Can be Sufficiently *Prov'd* if *Deny'd*.

(6.) How different from this was the *Election* at *Exeter*? Where two *Tackers* were Choſen, without any *Oppoſition*, Tho' two were ſet up againſt them, back'd with all the Intereſt the *Whiggs* and *Diſſenters* cou'd make. And at leaſt *Sixty* Letters from *London* ſent to the *Trading-Men* of that *City*, againſt the *Tackers*, ſays a *Letter* from an *Inhabitant* there, of ſtrict *Veracity*. But when they had made their utmoſt *Effort*, they found their *Party* ſo *Weak*, that their *Candidates* never Appear'd, nor any of their *Party*. So all was *Quiet* and *Peaceable*, without any *Inſult* or *Ill-Words* againſt either *Church*, *State*, or the *Miniſtry*, as it is where the *Whiggs* and *Diſſenters* Prevail

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